

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FDRE-00 HEW-06
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 DHA-02 SCA-01 SCSE-00
USIA-15 EB-08 IO-13 EPA-04 INT-05 OES-06 SP-02 /088 W
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R 042037Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9448
INFO USUN NEW YORK 705
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 1749

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, AR
SUBJ: FLOODING OF PARANA RIVER

1. SUMMER FLOODING OF THE MIDDLE STRETCHES OF THE PARANA RIVER IN ARGENTINA THIS YEAR HAS BEEN MORE SEVERE THAN IN PAST SEVERAL YEARS. VERY HEAVY RAINS IN THE PARANA WATERSHED IN BRAZIL, PARAGUAY, AND NORTHEASTERN ARGENTINA OVER PROLONGED PERIODS IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY HAVE CAUSED THE HIGH WATER. THE SITUATION HAS BEEN AGGRAVATED BY SERIOUS PERIODS OF HIGH RAINFALL IN TRIBUTARY WATERSHED AREAS, PARTICULARLY IN SANTA FE PROVINCE.

2. "PARANA MEDIO" ZONE (CORRIENTES TO SANTA FE) IS CHARACTERIZED BY HIGH BANK OF EASTER SIDE OF RIVER, MUCH LOWER BANK AND EXTENDED FLOOD PLAN TO THE WEST. DURING PERIODS OF LOW AND NORMAL RIVER LEVELS, EXTENSIVE USE IS MADE OF FLOOD PLAIN FOR GRAZING, CROPS, AND EVEN SOME INDUSTRIAL USES, AS WELL AS WELLINGS. MAJOR CITY OF SANTA FE, PROVINCIAL CAPITAL, IS BUILT ON FLOOD PLAIN AT CONVERGENCE
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OF RIO SALADO WITH PARANA.

3. AS CREST OF FLOOD PERSISTED FOR MANY DAYS NEAR SANTA FE, REPORTS INDICATED SOME 7500 PERSONS HAD TO BE EVACUATED. MANY PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS WERE CUT OFF BY WATER, AS WAS NATIONAL ROUTE 11, THE MAJOR HIGHWAY FROM ROSARIO TO SANTA FE AND THE NORTH. THERE WERE ALSO REPORETED TO BE

SOME 10,000 EVACUEES FROM ALTO VERDE ISLAND, IN THE PARANA
OFF SANTA FE.

4. COMMENT; THE PARANA HAS A LONG TIME CONSTANT, AND FLOOD
EFFECTS IN THE PARANA MEDIO AND LOWER REACHES ARE FAIRLY
PREDICTABLE BASED ON RECORDS OF RIVER STAGES UPSTREAM.
THE GOA DND PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES APPEAR TO HAVE TAKEN
REASONABLE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES, INCLUDING TIMELY
EVACUATIONS, SO AS TO MINIMIZE THE LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY
DAMAGE.

5. DEPT MAY WISH PASS COPY FOR BACKGROUND PURPOSES TO MEM-
BERS OF US DEL TO UN WATER CONFERENCE.
HILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RIVERS, FLOODS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Subject: FLOODING OF PARANA RIVER
TAGS: SENV, AR
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